



To: Community Representatives

From: Janyce Hedetniemi, Director  
Office of Community Liaison  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Date: December 2001

### NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

Let me begin by extending my very warm, best wishes to you for a happy holiday season. I hope that you will savor good times spent with family and friends, that your tables will be abundant with good food and embraced by fellowship and appreciation for all the good things in life, and that the new year will bring peace to us all.

#### To update you on campus activities:

On October 30, 2001, a special meeting of the Community Liaison Council (CLC) was held to discuss building a temporary parking lot on the NIH Bethesda campus. At that meeting, the Council heard a presentation from the NIH Office of Facilities Planning (OFF) about the need to add additional parking spaces to the campus as well as the locations of three options for a temporary parking lot. Community members requested that additional consideration be given to several alternatives to this temporary parking lot. At the November 15 CLC meeting, the OFF reported back to the CLC that it had looked at all the options, including the request that we do more to reduce single occupancy vehicular traffic to campus. At this time, almost 55% of NIH employees use some method of transportation *other than single occupancy vehicles* and the degree to which NIH can further reduce its parking demands is limited. Of the three options for a temporary lot, two have been rejected by NIH because they would infringe upon the 250-foot buffer established in the 1995 NIH Campus Master Plan. The third option, which admittedly is not ideal, nonetheless will meet the immediate need for temporary parking. That option places a parking lot *outside* of the buffer zone in the southwest corner of the campus. It will be constructed over the tennis courts, and consideration is being given to relocating the tennis courts or to restoring them when the temporary lot is removed. NIH agreed to work with the community to ensure that adequate natural screening would be provided, and I want to thank Harvey Eisen of Edgewood-Glenwood and Tim Coogan of Camelot Mews for their assistance to NIH staff in reviewing and commenting on the landscaping plans.

I also want to assure you that the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the natural gas pipeline includes a provision for offerors to address safety as required by appropriate regulatory authorities and in accordance with community and environmental impacts as outlined in Section M of the solicitation. In addition,

*(continued on page 2)*

The Community Liaison Council (CLC) will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, December 20, at 4 p.m.**, in Building 45, Room D on the NIH campus.

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offerors will be asked to address in their proposals the best available technology with respect to pipeline safety shutoff as a means of reducing consequences. Evaluators of proposals will be instructed to consider the latest National Transportation Safety Board and other relevant standards for technical evaluations. The RFP was announced in the *Commerce Business Daily* on November 2. In January, the preliminary solicitation will be posted on the following NIH Web site: <http://des.od.nih.gov/eWeb/contracts/html/contractactions.htm>, and questions for industry will be taken for 30 days. All resulting amendments will be posted to the Web site, and at the end of this 30-day period, cost and technical proposals will be due. The schedule for the competition is as follows:

- **Release of the solicitation**  
Late December 2001/January 2002
- **Receive proposals**  
January/February 2002
- **Evaluation and award**  
June/July 2002

Once again, I wish you a happy holiday season and all the best for the new year.

## NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

### NLM Launches Polar Region Web Site

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) recently launched "ArcticHealth," a Web site aimed at addressing the special health needs of inhabitants of the Arctic. The site provides access to reliable health information about chronic diseases, behavioral issues, traditional medicine, and environmental issues from educational institutions worldwide. ArcticHealth can be found at <http://arctichealth.nlm.nih.gov>.

Unlike other NLM-sponsored health sites, ArcticHealth serves a narrow audience and may lead to a series of health information Web sites geared toward special populations and the health professionals who serve them.

## WFLC Presents Stress-Management Seminar Series

The NIH Work and Family Life Center presents "Keeping Yourself Together: A Three-Part Stress Management Series" as part of its December Faces and Phases of Life Seminar Series. The three sessions, which are free and open to the public and held on the NIH campus, address the effects of both good and bad stress; how this stress can affect our work, home, and sleep; and ways of reducing stress in our lives. The program dates and locations are listed below. For more information or to register for the program, call 301-435-1619.

### Part 1: Stress Awareness

**Wednesday, December 5, 1–2 p.m.**

*Building 1, Wilson Hall*

This workshop defines both good and bad stress and explains how it affects our lives.

### Part 2: The Negative Impact of Stress, or "I'm Not Stressed Out!!!!!"

**Tuesday, December 11, 1–2 p.m.**

*Building 1, Wilson Hall*

Participants will learn how unattended stress affects work, home, and even sleep.

### Part 3: Developing Your Personal Stress Management Plan

**Wednesday, December 19, 1–2 p.m.**

*Building 31, Room 6C10*

Learn how to protect yourself against stress.

## Web Site Explains New Security Measures at NIH

A new Web site about NIH security procedures for visitors is now available at <http://www.nih.gov/about/visitorsecurity.htm>. These procedures, which are available in both English and Spanish, include current information on how to access the Bethesda campus, where to park, information on building accessibility, and specific information for Clinical Center patients. The site also provides many other useful links and contacts for more information as well as detailed maps.

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## First AIDS Vaccine Made at NIH Vaccine Research Center Enters Clinical Trial

In October, researchers at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center (VRC) began enrolling volunteers in a clinical trial testing the first AIDS vaccine made at the year-old facility.

NIAID Director Anthony Fauci, M.D., called the accomplishment “extraordinary,” adding that NIAID is moving with “unprecedented speed” to develop an AIDS vaccine.

“The speed with which we reached this milestone demonstrates the VRC staff’s dedication to the goal of finding an effective AIDS vaccine,” said VRC Director Gary J. Nabel, M.D., Ph.D. He and two of his research fellows began work on the HIV DNA vaccine a little more than a year ago. As a DNA vaccine, which only carries part of the virus’ genetic material, it is impossible for trial participants to become infected with HIV or develop AIDS from the vaccine.

The VRC is recruiting 21 healthy men and women aged 18 to 21 who are not infected with HIV and are at low risk for becoming infected. For more information, call toll-free at 1-866-833-5433 or visit <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/vrc/clinstudies.htm>.

## Digital Mammography Trial Launched

This fall the National Cancer Institute and the American College of Radiology Imaging Network launched the first large multicenter study comparing digital mammography to standard mammography for detecting breast cancer. The Digital Mammographic Imaging Screening Trial, which is recruiting nearly 50,000 women, will determine if digital technology is better than conventional technology for detecting breast cancer. The \$26.3 million trial will take place at 19 institutions throughout the United States and Canada.

Digital mammography uses computers and specially designed detectors to produce images of the breast on a high-resolution monitor. Despite its higher cost, digital mammography may be more

effective in detecting cancers in women with dense breasts, and it may lead to fewer callbacks, saving money in the long run. But researchers need a large study to determine if this new technology is better than conventional film mammography.

Women who are interested in participating in the study can contact one of the participating facilities. To find a facility near you or for more information, visit <http://www.dmist.org>. Women may only participate in the study at the time of their regularly scheduled screening mammogram, and each woman will be followed for several years after receiving both digital and standard mammograms.

## Nobel Scientists Honored for Research

In October, the National Library of Medicine invited the community to an all-day symposium to speak with three researchers who have shaped science history. The symposium, “New Frontiers of Biomedical Research 1945–1980,” honored Nobel prizewinners Joshua Lederberg, Julius Axelrod, and former NIH director Donald Fredrickson, along with other noted historians of medicine. Dr. Lederberg won the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1953 for his work with bacteria, and Dr. Axelrod won in 1970 for his work with antidepressants, paving the way for Prozac. Dr. Fredrickson, a cardiology researcher, presided over NIH from 1975 to 1981.

Community members participated in a unique open dialogue with these scientists and such contemporary historians of science as Nathaniel Comfort, David Hart, David Healy, Ellen Herman, Susan Lindee, Bill Leslie, and Jan Sapp.

## Holiday Cards Available from the Children’s Inn

Spread holiday cheer with cards illustrated by special children from the Children’s Inn at NIH. Each card carries the joy of the holidays as seen through a child’s eyes, is personalized with your name, and includes an artist biography. To order cards or to find out more about the artists, visit the Children’s Inn Web site at <http://www.childrensinn.org>.



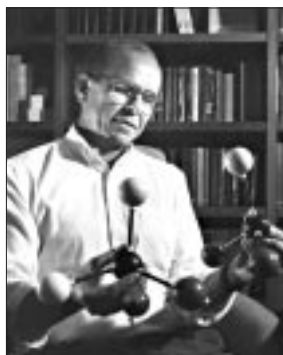
## Manchester String Quartet's New Season

The Manchester String Quartet delighted audiences this fall when it opened its 13th season of classical music at NIH. The performances, which are free and open to the public, are held in Masur Auditorium in Building 10, at 12:30 p.m. on select Mondays through Spring 2002. The current schedule is listed below. For more information, call Sharon Greenwell at 301-496-4713.

<b>December 17, 2001</b>	Grieg, <i>Quartet in G Major, opus 27</i>
<b>January 28, 2002</b>	Verdi, <i>Quartet in E Minor</i>
<b>February 11</b>	Janáček, <i>Quartet No. 2, "Intimate Letters"</i>
<b>March 11</b>	Ravel, <i>Quartet in F Major</i>
<b>March 25</b>	Debussy, <i>Quartet in G Minor, opus 10</i>
<b>April 15</b>	Smetana, <i>Quartet in E Minor, "From My Life"</i>

## NIH Grantee Wins Nobel Prize

K. Barry Sharpless, Ph.D., a long-time grantee of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), was awarded the 2001 Nobel Prize in Chemistry this fall for advances in mirror-image chemistry. Dr. Sharpless, who serves as the W.M. Keck Professor of Chemistry at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, shares the prize with Dr. William S. Knowles of St. Louis, Missouri, and Dr. Ryoji Noyori of Nagoya University in Japan.



Dr. Sharpless

Dr. Sharpless received the prize for his discovery of "chiral catalysts," molecules that help scientists control chemical reactions. This is especially important because most small molecules come in two mirror-image forms. The active part of medicines contains one form of the molecule, but if patients receive a mixture that contains the wrong form, the medicine may be ineffective or even harmful. Dr. Sharpless' discovery allows scientists

to force chemical reactions in a direction that only makes the correct form.

"Dr. Sharpless' ingenuity has streamlined the production of a wide array of important chemicals including certain antibiotics, heart medicines, and antidepressants," said NIGMS Director Marvin Cassman, Ph.D. NIGMS has provided Dr. Sharpless with more than \$7 million in research grant support.

## NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

**December 6** .....  
**Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) Women's Health Seminar Series:** *Successful Aging*, 1–3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-1770.

**Bethesda Chapter, Association for Women in Science:** *How Networking Really Works* by Dr. Hrisi Samartzidou, Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, 4:30–6:30 p.m., Chapel, The Cloister, NIH. For more information, call Dr. Meredith Temple at 301-496-1447.

**December 10** .....  
**2001–2002 NIH Neuroscience Lecture Series:** *Calcium Channels and Local and Long Distance Signaling on Both Sides of the Synapse* by Richard W. Tsien, Ph.D., Stanford University, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232.

**December 12** .....  
**The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:** *DNA Mechanics and Gene Regulation* by Wilma K. Olson, Ph.D., Rutgers University, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595.

**George Washington University Mobile Mammography Screening for NIH employees, their families, and others associated with NIH**, 9:30 a.m.–3:45 p.m., by appointment only, in front of Building 45, NIH, \$138. For more information, call 202-994-9999.

**December 19** .....  
**The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:** *Immunological Memory: Lessons for Vaccine Development* by Rafi Ahmed, Ph.D., Emory University School of Medicine, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595.



**NLM History of Medicine Seminar Series:** *Pox Americana: The Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775-1782* by Dr. Elizabeth A. Fenn, 2-3:15 p.m., Conference Room B, Building 38, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-8878.

## **December 21** .....

**NIH Director's Seminar Series:** *Neurovisceral Integration: Implications for Cognition, Emotion, and Health* by Julian F. Thayer, Ph.D., National Institute on Aging, noon-1 p.m., Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Colleen Crone at 301-496-1921.

*\*Call to confirm your event.*

## **OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST**

### **Holiday Fun in Montgomery County**

Get into the spirit of the season at any of these upcoming events in Montgomery County.

#### **Montgomery Holiday Parade**

**December 1, 10 a.m.**

*Downtown Silver Spring*

Come out to Georgia Avenue for metro D.C.'s only holiday parade! Marching bands and celebrities will be there, and good old Santa will come to town. For more information, call 301-565-7300.

#### **Holly Trolleyfest**

**December 1-30, Saturdays and Sundays**

*National Capital Trolley Museum*

Meet Santa; then head into the auditorium to see the toy trains. The National Capital Trolley Museum is located in Silver Spring. Festival hours are from 5 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 301-384-6352.

#### **Glenview Mansion Holiday Open House**

**Sundays, December 2, 9, 16, 23, 1-4 p.m.**

Come to the mansion for traditional entertainment and seasonal decorations. For more information, call 301-309-3340.

#### **Holiday Tours of Beall-Dawson House**

**Tuesday-Sunday, December 4-January 6**

Enjoy the decorations and hot cider and cookies at these tours held by the Montgomery County Historical Society (MCHS). Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors, students, and MCHS

members, and free for children under 6. The Beall-Dawson House is located at 103 West Montgomery Avenue in Rockville. Call 301-762-1492 for more information.

#### **Candlelight Christmas Farmhouse Tour**

**December 8-9, noon-4 p.m.**

*Agricultural History Farm Park*

The Friends of the Agricultural History Farm Park offer organ music and carolers, hot cider and gingerbread cookies, and handmade gifts for purchase at this annual event. Take a picture in the old-time sleigh, and then enjoy an afternoon hayride pulled by "reindeer" horses. Candlelight hayrides, drawn by tractor, will take place after 4:30 p.m. The Agricultural History Farm Park is located at 18400 Muncaster Road in Derwood. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. For more information, call 301-670-4661.

#### **Holiday Hues**

**December 8-January 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

*Brookside Gardens*

Stroll through a colorful garden of seasonal designs made of holiday plants. Reds and golds adorn the North Conservatory, and blue and white surrounds a miniature train in the South Conservatory. Admission is free. Brookside Gardens is located at 1800 Glenallan Avenue in Wheaton. Call 301-949-8230 for more information.

#### **Holiday Celebration**

**December 21, 1 p.m.**

*Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center*

The Dale Jarrett Trio performs its holiday concert. Tickets can be purchased with the donation of two non-perishable items to the Montgomery County Recreation Department's annual food drive. Call 301-681-1255 for more information.

## **Free Flu Shots Available for Seniors**

The Bethesda Senior Source offers free flu shots for senior citizens on **Tuesday, December 4**, from 1 to 3 p.m. Please bring your Medicare card if you have it. The Bethesda Senior Source is located at 4805 Edgemoor Lane in Bethesda. Call 301-951-1990 for more information.

## 'Tis the Season for Lights

The holiday season brings lights and color with two annual favorites.

### Winter Lights

The City of Gaithersburg is holding its

"Winter Lights

2001" celebration this

month to raise money for charity at Seneca Creek State Park in Gaithersburg. With more than three miles of 200 illuminated displays, 50 of which are animated, this year's event features several theme areas—the North Pole, Winter Woods, and Teddy Bear Land. Visitors are welcome Sundays through Thursdays from 6 to 9:30 p.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays from 6 to 10 p.m. Admission is \$10 per car, \$25 per 15-passenger van, and \$50 per bus. All proceeds benefit local charities. Seneca Creek State Park is located at 11950 Clopper Road in Gaithersburg.

For more information, call 301-258-6350.



### Garden of Lights

The Garden of Lights is back! Bring the family to Brookside Gardens for a stroll through twinkling, colorful plants, animals, and fountains. New displays for this year include a giant animated moonvine that grows 25 feet high, bursting into bloom. After your walk, enjoy light refreshments in the Visitor's Center. On select evenings, musical performances are featured. This annual holiday event runs Thursday through Sunday, from 5:30 to 9 p.m., through January 6, 2002. Admission is \$10 per car. Brookside Gardens is located at 1800 Glenallan Avenue in Wheaton. For more information, visit <http://www.brooksidegardens.org> or call 301-962-1453.



## Consumer Alerts in Montgomery County

Montgomery County residents can now learn about the latest scams and consumer news by visiting a

new consumer alerts section of the county's Department of Housing and Consumer Affairs' Web page at <http://hca.emontgomery.org>. The site can be found by clicking on the "Consumer" button and then on "Consumer Alerts." Current listings include instructions for retrieving clothing from a Bethesda dry cleaner that has gone out of business, a posting on a lottery/sweepstakes scam, and tips on how to avoid home improvement scams. Merchant complaint records are also accessible from the site. For more information, call the Division of Consumer Affairs at 240-777-3636.

## Montgomery County Responds to Bioterrorism Threat

Citizens concerned about anthrax and other biological agents now have two new resources. Montgomery County recently established a round-the-clock bilingual hot line that offers taped information about anthrax and other biological agents 24-hours-a-day, 7 days a week, and direct advice from emergency medical and public health professionals between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. The hot line number is 240-777-4200.

In addition to the hot line, the county opened a health risk assessment center in Silver Spring to provide counseling and education on a walk-in basis for Montgomery County citizens concerned about biological agents. The center, which is open weekdays from noon to 7 p.m. and on weekends from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., is located at the Dennis Avenue Health Center, 2000 Dennis Avenue.

## Free Bus Rides Available

Are you tired of sitting in traffic on I-270? If so, why not take advantage of free bus rides instead? As part of a new Montgomery County transit initiative, six Ride On bus routes that serve the I-270 corridor—Routes 70, 72, 73, 75, 77, and 79—are free. Reduced fares of \$.50 and \$1 are available for several other commuter routes. The initiative will test whether free or reduced fares, which are in effect through June 30, 2002, increase transit ridership and alleviate congestion on major commuter routes. For more information about the program or bus route information, call 240-777-7433 or visit <http://www.RideOnbus.com>.

## Music in the Mansion in December

The Strathmore Hall Arts Center is hosting two holiday concerts as part of its Music in the Mansion concert series. The artists and scheduled performance dates are located below. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$19 for seniors, and \$12 for students 18 and under. To order tickets, call 301-530-0540. Strathmore is located at 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda.

### Masterworks Chorus and Orchestra

**Sunday, December 9, 3 p.m.**

The Masterworks Chorus and Orchestra performs several holiday favorites including C.P.E. Bach's Excerpts from *Magnificat*, Mendelssohn's *Frohlocket dem Herm*, Felix's *Ave Maria*, and Gruber's *Still Nacht*.

### Concert Artists of Baltimore Yuletide Celebration

**Sunday, December 16, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.**

Audiences are treated to vocal and instrumental music from home and from abroad. Music includes traditional music, *Nightcries* by Jonathon Leshnoff, and *Come Down Heavy!* by Evan Chambers.

### Public Invited to Comment on Transportation in Wheaton

The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) wants to hear from Wheaton residents. MTA is inviting the public to discuss future transportation options for Wheaton at a workshop on Sunday, December 9, from 1 to 5 p.m., at the Crossway Community. Topics include pedestrian, bicycle, highway, and public transit. The Crossway Community is located at 3015 Upton Street. For more information, call Judith Sikorski at 410-767-2948 or 1-888-218-2267. To register, call 240-777-8121.

### Audubon Society Holds Holiday Fair

The Audubon Naturalist Society is hosting its 32nd annual Holiday Fair on December 1–2, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Woodend Mansion in Chevy Chase. The fair, touted as “the most creative of all holiday fairs” by the *Washington Post*, showcases work from more than 100 juried artisans. Nature arts and crafts will be featured in heated and carpeted tents

on the mansion grounds. To view some of the featured crafts at the fair or for more information, visit <http://www.audubonnaturalist.org>. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children under 12, and free for children under 2. Two-day admission tickets may also be purchased for \$11. All proceeds support the Audubon Naturalist Society's environmental education and nature programs. The Woodend Mansion is located at 8940 Jones Mill Road.

### Local Artist Honored for Mural

Robert Cohen, artist in residence at the Bauer Drive Community Center and a founding member of the Rockville Arts Place, was honored in October at a dedication of an exterior mural that he created. Cohen, who has taught art in Montgomery County for 30 years and has shown his work in many group and solo exhibitions, designed the mural in response to requests from the Rockville community. Located on a wall of the Bauer Drive Community Center, the mural depicts many of the activities at the center and some of the neighborhood history. This is his first public commission. The community center is located at 14625 Bauer Drive.



### TRY THIS WEB SITE:

<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/newsroom/focuson/flu00/default.htm>

With the flu season upon us, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases updated its *Focus on the Flu* Web feature about cutting-edge influenza research. Visitors to the site can learn about how the influenza virus works, the differences between a cold and the flu, and new flu treatments and vaccines. Summaries of exciting research by NIH “flu fighters” are also featured, along with links to other flu-related sites.

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Depression Study Needs Volunteers

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) seeks women aged 21 to 45 who are suffering from major depression for a study on the relationship between low bone mass and depression or stress hormones. The trial involves six visits to NIMH, where participants will receive a psychological evaluation, a bone mineral density test, and measurements of stress hormones. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222 or 301-496-5645. You may also send an e-mail to [prpl@cc.mail.nih.gov](mailto:prpl@cc.mail.nih.gov).

### Patients Needed for Antidepressants Study

Researchers at the NIH Clinical Center need persons older than 18 for a study on a class of

antidepressants called selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and blood platelet function. Candidates should be suffering from severe depression and taking an SSRI (Prozac, Zoloft, Paxil, Luvox, or Celexa). Persons taking the non-SSRI medication Wellbutrin are also eligible. Participants will donate 4 tablespoons of blood for routine screening and evaluation of platelet function. The study takes about one hour, and compensation will be provided. For more information, call Donna Jo Mayo at 301-496-5150.

### Sickle Cell Disease Study

Persons suffering from sickle cell disease are invited to take part in new studies. Persons must be 18 years or older. Participation is free, and compensation is available. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222; TTY users call 1-866-411-1010.

*The OCL Update is available on our Web site at <http://ocl.od.nih.gov>. If you would rather view this document online and not receive a printed version, please contact the OCL office at 301-496-3931 or send us an e-mail at [jh69z@nih.gov](mailto:jh69z@nih.gov). If you would like to list an upcoming event of interest to the local community, call Terry LaMotte at Palladian Partners, OCL support contractor, at 301-650-8660, or e-mail at [tlamotte@palladianpartners.com](mailto:tlamotte@palladianpartners.com).*

### Office of Community Liaison

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